

Indiana Statewide Independent Living Council (INSILC)
MINUTES 03/08/2017

Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center – Conference Room C
402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

INSILC Members Present: Peter Ciancone, Cynthia Rockwell, Chris Cleveland, and Kevin Burk (via phone), and Kortney Bond

INSILC Members Absent: Derek Deckman, Peri Rogowski, Erin Hall, Fred Vaiana, Bill Fama, Bonnie Bomer

Guests Present: Amber O'Haver, Amy Allen Sekhar, Tonya Resler, and Theresa Koleszar

- I. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Chair Chris Cleveland officially called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** INSILC Members and Guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** Peter Ciancone (Center for Independent Living (CIL) Rep, Voting Member), Cynthia Rockwell (Secretary, Voting Member), Chris Cleveland (Chair, Voting Member), Amber O'Haver (INSILC Executive Director), Amy Allen Sekhar (INSILC Administrative Coordinator), Kortney Bond (BDDS), Theresa Koleszar (Director, BRS), Tonya Resler (Independent Living Program Director, FSSA/BRS - Guest), Kevin Burk via phone (Treasurer, Voting Member).
- IV. **Additions to & Approval of the Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda with no changes was made by Cynthia Rockwell. The motion was seconded by Peter Ciancone and the motion was passed.
- V. **Statement of the Chair:** A Statement of the Chair was given indicating that there would be limited time at the end of the meeting for public comment; the Chair further reminded the public of the rules for public comment.
- VI. **Approval of Minutes:** Chair Chris Cleveland asked for a motion to approve the February 8, 2017 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kevin Burk. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Rockwell and the motion was passed via roll-call vote.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report:** Kevin Burk gave the Treasurer's Report and shared that details can be found in the documents that were provided to the Council. Mr. Burk remarked that he will have a more detailed summary available via email to the Council. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Peter Ciancone. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Rockwell and the motion was passed via roll-call vote.
- VIII. **Old Business**
 - A. **INSILC-FSSA/BRS Contract – Update:** Amber O'Haver commented that the contract has been signed and approved by the State and has received the INSILC claim packet to use to submit claim reimbursements to the State. There is a copy of the signed contract in the packet, which was also emailed to all Council Members. Ms. O'Haver extended thanks to Peri Rogowski for her help with getting the signed contract.
 - B. **704 Report (Part 1):** Amber O'Haver briefly explained the 704 Report and how it relates to Part B funding. Ms. O'Haver provided a summary of the content of the report. Peter Ciancone raised a question about a small (\$2) discrepancy in reported spending and Tonya Resler explained that this is a rounding issue; Ms. Resler also explained that there are some areas where a digit was cut off on page 5, but the full amount is in the report correctly. Ms. O'Haver explained that this is partly due to the challenges of the new reporting system, which does not

allow for downloading as a PDF or text document. Ms. O'Haver pointed out the big achievement of the drafting of the SPIL with a short turnaround time with the challenges of having new Council members and a new Executive Director (ED); this demonstrates a strong partnership between the SILC, CILs, and DSE. Ms. O'Haver reiterated the early challenges of 2016 with many new Council members and a new ED, creating a large learning curve. The Chair commented on a job well done. A motion to approve the report was made by Cynthia Rockwell. The motion was seconded by Peter Ciancone. Discussion: Peter Ciancone asked about the missing information on page 47 from the DSE, and Ms. O'Haver commented that this was not mandatory information; the report is not incomplete without it. The motion was passed via roll-call vote.

IX. New Business

- A. **Disability Awareness Month:** Kevin Burk commented that his area orders the Disability Awareness Packets from the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities and uses it in the schools to educate students about disabilities. Mr. Burk also utilizes the packets when engaging in community outreach. The Chair commented that, in coming years, the Council will engage in more Disability Awareness Month events and activities as we move forward with our new PR and Marketing firm.
- B. **INSILC Fiscal Policies & Procedures.** A motion to approve the updated INSILC policies and procedures document was made by Peter Ciancone. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Rockwell and the motion was passed via roll-call vote.
- C. **INSILC Training with National ILRU Trainers (June 23 & 24):** Amber O'Haver explained that she would like to hold another training for the Council now with National ILRU trainers and bring them out in June. Ms. O'Haver and the trainers proposed the dates of June 23 & 24 and would like to select dates as soon as possible. There will be an email poll to select a set of dates in June as soon as possible. Chris Cleveland suggested that they propose and vote on a 2-day training with a to-be-determined date. A motion to accept a 2-day ILRU training for INSILC was made by Kevin Burk. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Rockwell and the motion was passed via roll-call vote.
- D. **Funding Formula Report – Update:** Amber O'Haver summarized the report to the Council, which was provided as part of the meeting packet. Ms. O'Haver suggests that the individuals who prepared the formula report provide some guidance and explanation in lay language for how the data was gathered. This information will be provided via video conference at the May INSILC public meeting. The Council and members of the public will be able to seek clarification at this time. The goal is to make final changes based on feedback and to vote on the Funding Formula report at the July meeting.

X. Committee & State Updates, Reports, Comments:

A. Executive Director Report:

- a. Amber O'Haver provided commentary on the documentary film Bottom Dollars about sub-minimum wage employment in the United States in sheltered workshops. In Indiana, many 14(c) certificate holders also have guardianship, so they do not have a choice of whether to accept this type of employment setting or not. Ms. O'Haver recommended the film to the Council and the public.
- b. This month Ms. O'Haver provided training to accessABILITY, Center for Independent Living on housing and transition. She will also be attending and providing training on the State Plan for Independent Living 2017-2019 at their next staff meeting and

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answer questions. She also extended and offered her time and any requested training to the other CILs and outside organizations/agencies if interested.

- c. Ms. O'Haver introduced Amy Allen Sekhar, the new INSILC Administrative Coordinator.
- B. **Outreach Committee:** Chair Chris Cleveland reiterated that there will be more opportunities for March Disability Awareness month in the future in conjunction with new marketing.
- C. **SPIL (2017-2019) Committee:** Peter Ciancone commented that they have been making progress with the funding formula. Working on INSILC organizational effectiveness and have made much progress with the retreat and trainings.
- D. **Update - DSE:** Theresa Koleszar provided the report. There is a transition day, primarily for youth who are deaf, that is taking place in Government Center Atrium on March 9th and about 200 attendees are expected. She then gave an update on WIOA Implementation for pre-employment transition services for students with disabilities. There are currently nine contracts that were awarded to employment service providers that began in October 2016 to provide these services in the State. There is also new federal language around sub-minimum wage employment (Section 511) that brings new responsibilities for the DSE to ensure career counseling services and information and referral services is provided to those employed within sub-minimum wage environments. The DSE is partnering with the ARC of Indiana and Self-Advocates of Indiana to help carry out those activities. This section of WIOA was not passed until July 22, 2016; however, the regulations were not posted until September 2016. The DSE has until July 2017 to verify these new required activities have taken place. The DSE plans to enhance the Section 511 information in the future. Ms. Koleszar commented that the purpose of these regulations is to provide informed choices for people with disabilities currently employed at sub-minimal wages. Also, the Rehabilitation Service Administration (RSA) will be conducting an onsite federal monitoring visit of Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation and its supported employment services; RSA will be visiting the week of April 17, 2017.
- E. **Update – Centers for Independent Living:** Peter Ciancone sent out a request to CIL directors for success stories, which has provided in the packet.
- F. **Update – Other Agencies:** No update.
- G. **Public Comments:** Chair Chris Cleveland reminded members of the public of the INSILC public comment policy and code of conduct and requested that any questions that request a special response be sent to the Council via email.
 - a. **Aderia Kelly (Lake County):** Ms. Kelly raised concerns about Vocational Rehabilitation and the length of time for the process in finding employment and/or receiving services for existing employment. Ms. Kelly expressed concern about how this affects employment as well as education and would like to know what is being done on a state-level to remedy the situation. The Chair offered advice to contact the Vocational Rehabilitation Commission and suggested Easter Seals Crossroads as another source of support. The Chair also commented that he would be at the Vocational Rehabilitation Commission meeting and would raise the question.
 - b. **Lori Cassidy (Tippecanoe County):** Ms. Cassidy also raised questions about the process for Vocational Rehabilitation and education. Ms. Cassidy commented that VR did not provide help for her schooling or hand controls; she found resources on her own.

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Amber O'Haver offered to discuss this with Ms. Cassidy in more detail following the meeting to identify other resources.

- a. **Lorell Kilpatrick (Lake County):** Ms. Kilpatrick commented that a lawyer had sent an email to the Council on behalf of Everybody Counts. Chair responded that they are still working on a response. Ms. Kilpatrick also commented on the African-American and other minority populations in Northwest Indiana and expressed concern about problems she sees with support from the Council regarding these issues. She questioned the data source used for the IL funding formula (the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey) and provided her own data which she said is more reliable. Ms. O'Haver commented on the reliability of the data source used for the IL funding formula noting it is the same source from which Ms. Kilpatrick pulled her own data and stated there will be more information provided on the data sources at the May INSILC meeting. Ms. Kilpatrick asked when there would be an opportunity for the public to weigh in on the IL funding formula and Ms. O'Haver responded that it would be at the May INSILC meeting. Ms. Kilpatrick also asked how it was decided to bring in an outside team to determine the funding formula; Ms. O'Haver responded that it was discussed and voted on by the Council at a prior INSILC meeting and this information can be found in the past INSILC meeting minutes providing more detail. Ms. Kilpatrick further commented on her removal from the Outreach Committee.

- H. **Adjournment:** Peter Ciancone motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cynthia Rockwell seconded the motion and it was passed via roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next INSILC meeting is scheduled for May 10th, at 1:00-4:30 p.m. in the Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C.